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January 20, 2012

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk & Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Drive
Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Docket No. 2011-329-C; ACN Communication Services, Inc. Request for Alternative Bond Amount

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Please accept this letter, submitted on behalf of ACN Communication Services, Inc. ("ACN" or the "Company"), as a request for an alternative bond or other security mechanism ("bond") amount under Regulation 103-607. Pursuant to that regulation, the Commission may waive the bond requirement if the telephone utility provides evidence of financial stability as deemed appropriate by the Commission. Specifically, ACN requests that, if it is required to post a bond, the face value be no higher than \$27,000. ACN also requests that it be relieved of the requirement to participate in oral arguments in this proceeding. In support of its request, ACN states as follows:

Under Regulation 103-607, which became effective on June 24, 2011, telephone utilities that provide retail residential local exchange services and that have not invested at least \$5 million in facilities in South Carolina are required to post a bond of no less than \$100,000. By letter dated September 7, 2011, ACN requested a waiver of this bond requirement. By order issued December 28, 2011, the Commission requested the Commission staff to schedule oral arguments to address the waiver requests submitted by ACN and other carriers.

As noted in its request for waiver of the bond requirement, ACN is a well-established telecommunications carrier that operates throughout the United States. The Company is authorized to operate as a CLEC and long distance reseller in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. It has provided long distance services throughout the United States for approximately 11 years and local exchange and bundled services for approximately 8 years in most states. Although ACN does not own facilities in South Carolina, it believes its stable financial condition and its longevity as a telecommunications provider in South Carolina and throughout the country justify a waiver of the bond requirement imposed under Regulation 103-607. It is ACN's understanding that the Commission recently granted a waiver of the bond requirement to at least one other carrier, Liberty-Bell Telecom, LLC, pursuant to order issued December 7, 2011 in DN 2011-365-C. Liberty-Bell was a new applicant with no record of service in South Carolina.


Nevertheless, should the Commission determine that a bond or other financial security instrument should be required of ACN, ACN requests that the required amount be no higher than \$27,000, which reflects the number of ACN's South Carolina residential access lines in service as of the end of 2011 (472) times its average residential retail price for local service in South Carolina (approximately \$28.46) times two months' of service. ACN has had discussions with the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") and believes

that this proposal would address ORS' concerns. ACN requests that this bond amount be established in lieu of the Company participating in oral arguments, which have been scheduled for February 15, 2012. Participation in oral arguments would be unduly burdensome and costly to the Company.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing by date stamping the extra copy of this letter and returning it to me in the self-addressed, stamped envelope that is provided for this purpose.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this request to Sharon Thomas at 407-740-3031 or stthomas@tminc.com.

Sincerely,



Sharon Thomas
Consultant to ACN Communication Services, Inc.

Cc: Mr. C. Dukes Scott, Executive Director, ORS
Legal Department, ACN
File: ACN – SC Local
Tms: SCL1201